

Aug 1975

ST. STEPHEN'S DIARY

August

Sun.	3rd	11.00 am.	Rev. A. Nash
		3.00 pm.	Old People's Welfare Service
		6.00 pm.	Service of Word & Sacrament
Mon.	4th	7.00 pm.	Whist Drive (& each Monday)
Tues.	5th	7.30 pm.	Ladies Guild: A Health Visitor
		6.15 pm.	Envoys
Fri.	8th	7.30 pm.	Plant Sale & Slide Show: 5p
Sun.	10th	11.00 am.	Mr. D. Nuttall B.Sc.
		6.00 pm.	To be announced
Sun.	17th	11.00 am.	"
		6.00 pm.	"
Sun.	24th	11.00 am.	Mr. S. Hazelhurst
		6.00 pm.	Rev. A. Nash
Sun.	31st	11.00 am.	Mr. J.M. Farraday
		6.00 pm.	Mrs. M. Carhian

NOTE: No Elders or Church Meetings during August

Sept.	7th	11.00 am.	Rev. A. Nash
		6.00 pm.	Service of Word & Sacrament

FLOWERS FOR COMMUNION TABLE

Aug.	3rd	Mrs. N. Settle	Mrs. J. Harrison
	10th	Mrs. E. McDermott	Mrs. C. Wilkinson
	17th	Mrs. R. Wolfenden	Mrs. P. Staff
	24th	Mrs. A. Collins	Mrs. R. Sandham
	31st	Mrs. A. Whitworth	
Sept.	7th	Miss J. Reed	Mrs. A. Travis

OFFERTORIES

Cash

	am.	pm.	Envelopes	Total
May	27.66	6.98	64.99	99.63
June 1	7.54	1.61	16.24	25.39
8	79.60	50.50	ANNIVERSARY	130.10 + £104
15	5.03	1.77	24.36	31.16 lp-a-day
22	4.83	1.73	7.10	13.66 Heating F.
29	3.06	1.46	7.25	11.77
	£100.06	£57.07	£54.95	£212.08

LITTLEBOROUGH DIARY

August

Sat. 2nd 1.30 pm. Trip to Todmorden Park
 Sun. 3rd 10.30 am. Mr. J. Lord
 Tues. 5th 7.30 pm. Junior Church Staff Meeting
 Sun. 10th 10.30 am. Rev. A. Nash
 6.00 pm. " Communion
 (followed by Fellowship Hour)
 Tues. 12th 7.00 pm. Women's Guild Evening Drive.
 Sun. 17th 10.30 am. Mrs. M. Nash
 Tues. 19th 7.30 pm. Women's Guild Birthday Supper
 Sun. 24th 10.30 am. Mr. J. Lord
 Tues. 26th 7.30 pm. Coffee Evening & Preview of
 Christmas Gifts and Cards.
 (Young People's Stall)
 Sun. 31st 10.30 am. Mr. J. Lord

September

Sun. 7th CHURCH CLOSED - HOLIDAYS

FLOWERS FOR COMMUNION TABLE

Aug. 3rd Mrs. M. Leach
 10th Mrs. Lightfoot
 17th Mrs. Hill
 24th Mrs. H. T. Hill
 31st { Mrs. Holt
 { Mrs. Cockcroft
 Sept. 14th Mrs. J. Shackleton

COLLECTIONS

	<u>Cash</u>	<u>Envelopes</u>
May 4th	2.67	11.29
11th	4.97	15.35
18th	11.00	Christian Aid
25th	2.43½	17.22½
June 1st	1.64	10.65
8th	1.85½	11.40½
15th	8.97	13.48
22nd		Holidays
29th		"

Total from Missionary boxes opened 15th June: £16.38

From the Manse,

August, 1975.

My dear friends,

Although it was Sunday and still quite early in the morning, there was already a stream of traffic making its way to the coast. One car in particular caught my attention for it drew a light trailer on which nestled a fascinating boat. Trim she was and beautifully turned out, and I could imagine her setting out across the sunlit sea. In bold lettering on the stern was spelt out the name "Fugitive".

I thought about this. Why, I wondered, had such a name been given? A fugitive from what or from whom? Hardly from justice. It could perhaps refer to an escape from a humdrum office routine or from the same old surroundings. It could have meant a means of escape from the sheer busy-ness of life and its pressures. As it was a boat one might also be led to think that it gave opportunity of finding some relief from the miles of car-clogged roadways and teeming beaches. "Fugitive".

It is interesting to notice that the first question in the Bible is that asked by God of Adam, "Where are you?" A very important question for Adam, as indeed it is for us all.

In these days there are many folk who seek a means of escape from the pressures of life. Some find this in simple refreshing relaxation in a pleasant place; with others, unhappily, it sometimes takes more serious forms. In our midst also are those who knowingly or unknowingly are fugitives from God. There can be, of course, no hiding place from Him, for as a Greek poet of ancient times has truly said, "In Him we live and move and have our being."

Jesus tells us that God is seeking for each one of us, not simply to find where we are or what we are doing. He knows that already.

His seeking of us is so that we may find Him and in finding Him and realising the extent of the love He has for us, that we may want to enter into the fellowship of love He offers us.

It has been said that there are two kinds of retreat only. The first comprises forgetfulness or rejection of God. The second may be summed up in the words of the old hymn, "Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee". God finds us all in due course. How much better for us if we find Him early.

May He bless you and yours.

Your sincere friend,

ALFRED NASH

Thought for the month:

"And this is eternal life, to know You, the only true God, and Him whom you have sent - Jesus Christ".

John 17: v.3.

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OBITUARY

Mr. ROBERT WHITWORTH, aged 74 years, of 28 Bentgate Street, Newhey. The funeral took place at Newhey Parish Church, our minister officiating, on the 9th June.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to all the family.

BAPTISM

Our Minister officiated at the Baptism of:

NICHOLAS ROBERT HUGHES - on 1st June

DAVID ALEXANDER DUXBURY - on 20th July

at St. Stephen's.

....May God richly bless these little ones.

CONGRATULATIONS TO.....

KEVIN LAW of 2, Church Terrace, Milnrow,
who has recently received a B.Sc. (Hons) Degree
in Environmental Sciences at Salford University.

Well done, Kevin!

BEST WISHES TO.....

All young people, both at Milnrow and Little-
borough, who are now starting out to work for
the first time..... also to those moving
from Primary to Secondary School..... and to
little ones who will be starting School in
September. God bless you all!

ST. STEPHEN'S ROCKET

In the last issue of the Messenger we were
looking forward to getting the rocket off the
launch pad, and now we have to report that, due
to the magnificent response to the 'penny-a-day'
scheme and the efforts and gifts of various folk,
the rocket really went up with a "whoosh" and is
now climbing steadily towards outer space.

There is still some way to go yet, as you all
know, but what a tremendous encouragement it is
to have launched the project so effectively.

Thank you all!

CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

It may seem a long time since we celebrated
the Church Anniversary at St. Stephen's (June 8th),
but it is not too late to say a word of thanks
and appreciation to all who helped to make it
such a happy and memorable occasion.

Well done, everybody!

TRAINING

Members of the Young Mums are reminded that there is to be a trip to Alexandra Park, the well known Oldham Beauty Spot, on Wednesday 6th August, and this is not to be missed at any price. What is more, the journey is to be made by rail and this is a glorious opportunity to see the sights of Nether Newhey, to be waved at by Shaw Gawkies, to speed across Royton Sands and catch the infection of Mumps. All of which, are, of course, subject to suitable weather conditions as Oldham is not quite as pretty in the rain.

After these delights, Ladies, you've had it until 10th September, when we embark upon a variety filled autumn programme, so we look forward to seeing you then.

DISGUISED EFFORTS

Members of the Efforts Committee wish to express their delight at the response to recent events which, considering the time of year, were well supported. The other Saturday there was the Masked Ball and Midsummer Revels which were capably run by M.C's: Mr. & Mrs. Alan Turner to whom we are very grateful for being left with full responsibility at short notice. Well done Alan and Angela!

There has also been a Material Sale at which the ladies were able to rummage around and help us to a profit of £18 for the evening; Much work went into this behind the scenes; unnoticed but very much appreciated.

The next Efforts Committee spectacular will be:

HARRY'S

PLANT SALE & SLIDE SHOW
on

Friday, 8th August at 7.30 p.m.

and when we say it is organised by Mr. Mellor you know you'll get value for.....5p Admission.

DUST THE JOB

There are many unseen jobs done at St. Stephen's and among those whose efforts are not written in the dust are the Church cleaners. We wish to extend our thanks to the band of willing men and women who voluntarily help in this way.

Should there be anybody, especially our younger friends, who feel they would like to keep the church running smoothly by offering their services in this way, would they please see Mrs. Nash. The more helpers we have, the fewer times each ones name comes round.

Where is there a First Aid Box at St. Stephen's?

ANECDOTES AND ANTEDOTES

The Ladies Guild don't come to a halt just because it's summer; they merely switch to seasonal thoughts like Desert Islands and Do It Yourself. Mrs. Banerjee came along to be a guest, sorry - cast-away, on a Desert Island Discs evening which was compered by Mrs. C. Clough, and we were treated to a fascinating variety of records which ranged in style from Oriental music to Rock-around-the-clock!

Many thanks, Mrs. Banerjee.

The "Do-It-Yourself" evening was arranged for a Tuesday in the holiday period and various members contributed anecdotes and recitations. Brenda Sharples demonstrated her first aid knowledge (at least, a little of it) and so long as the right accidents occur we might be able to cope better in future. Others contributed recollections of Milnrow and other coach trips.

Bring a friend to the next Guild meeting on Tuesday 5th August, when a Health Visitor will talk about her work. See you there.

Well, where is that First Aid Box at St. Stephen's?

SERVICE SURVEYED

We rather suppose that God in his infinite wisdom does not put very much emphasis on statistics, but we mere mortals in the latter part of the Twentieth Century seem to spend a lot of time, one way or another, collecting, brooding or despairing over figures. Here is another statistic to add to your collection:

(9,490)

This statistic has nothing to do with crimes in Crewe, babies born in Bombay or even the incredible shrinking pound. It is, simply and cheerfully -

The total manminutes of Christian worship at St. Stephen's on Sunday morning 20th July/75

The Junior Department conducted a survey of that Morning's service and have compiled a record which can be put into the church archives for comparison when today's Juniors are tomorrow's Elders, so to speak.

Worship began one minute late and lasted for an hour and five minutes. There were 146 people present; adults and children in almost equal proportions but females outnumbered males two to one. Fifteen teachers taught in Sunday School and at least 20 people made a direct contribution to arrangements for the service in varying capacities from cleaning to brewing coffee; from taking the collection to to taking the service.

The Juniors visited all other departments and the activities observed there included: Making a book; preparing a service; hearing about Mr. Hey; singing five ducks and playing. No prizes are offered for guessing which department did what. One group watched events in church and noted that there was both a Baptism and Communion and Rev. Nash might be interested to know that his sermon was about "The Church, Joy and Happiness, violins, Soap, Jobs and Sugar". Such is the price of poetry.

As always the survey was subject to statistical error; they failed to count David Alexander Duxbury, the most important person present.

WHERE IS THERE A FIRST AID BOX AT ST. STEPHEN'S

We apologise for being so insistent about this but the other Sunday Gillian Walton was scalded with a cup of coffee after morning service. As it happens, cold water and covering up is the best treatment for scalds but it did prompt some of us to wonder if St. Stephen's had a first aid box and when we checked up we found that there is a kit in the vestry. So now you know, even though we hope that the information proves superfluous.

ABSENT EDITOR RETURNS

Readers ought to know that this the first "Messenger" put together by the official editor for three months. Due to pressures at local election time and Whitsuntide holidays, Mrs. Emmott was asked to step into the breach and ably did so. Thank you very much, Dorothy!

Incidentally, the Editor will be 'barging' off again on 30th August so will all contributors please let me have copy as far in advance of that date as possible, otherwise Dorothy will be confronted with another pile of scrawly papers on the evening of the 29th.

ALL WEATHER GARDEN PARTIES

We have had two garden parties which weren't garden parties, in recent weeks. The first was a Barbeque held a few Friday nights ago at Chateau Baines. The Editor cannot report on this as his view was hampered by the heat-haze, the barbeque smoke and the sweat of his brow as Guisseppe and Guillaume slaved over the hottest stove in Europe. Nevertheless, everyone seemed to enjoy themselves, and the event raised £17.50 for C.W.M.

The other non-garden party, organised by the Women's Guild, was held in the schoolroom due to inclement weather. But let's not complain, this raised £44.

READ AND CONSIDER

"You are a letter from Christ.....written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God".

11 Corinthians 3: v.3 (R.S.V.)

The Venture for Victory baseball team had been selected from several colleges and universities on the basis of their active witness for Jesus Christ as well as their proven athletic ability. After winning several games during their Philippine tour, the team was defeated by the Meralco team of Manila.

Prior to the game, the Venture for Victory team had presented the person and message of Christ through music, testimony, and literature. During the game their enthusiasm, hard play, and sportmanship verified their verbal presentation.

As the game ended, these young men went to the Meralco bench to congratulate the Filipino players for their excellent playing.

As the team approached the Meralco bench, their coach stepped forward. He told the visiting players that although they had lost the game, they had won the Filipino people and that he was thankful for their Christian witness.

Dear Lord, help us to be Your examples in the world of our influence, which is our home, our circle of associates, and our profession.

Amen.

Remember -

Your can't expect fine weather
and good fortune all the way.

Roses round the easy paths
and sunshine every day.....

You'd soon grow bored with that,
so when some trouble dims the light -
do not dwell on what went wrong.
Remember what went right.

Patience Strong

FROM JOPPA TO SUPPA

A very helpful message was given us by Miss Paton-Rogerson at our meeting in July. She spoke to us of Dorcas (Tabitha) - whose story is found in the Acts of the Apostles, Chapter 9 verses 36 - 42 - of how kindly she was - and how very important too - and of how important each of us is.

On August 12th we shall take a trip by coach to Heponstall and our usual Guild Meeting on the 19th will take the form of a Birthday Supper.

For any new-comer to the area, Ladies Guild meets every third Tuesday in the month. We are always looking for new members.....a welcome awaits YOU!

PILOTING PILOTS

On May 31st our Captain and two junior officers, Beverley Allison and Lindsey Merrick, attended a Regional Pilot Training Day at Haresfinch U.R.C., near St. Helens. During the morning session general pilot matters were discussed including a proposed Quiz Competition for all pilots in the North West - so, you brains of Littleborough and Milnrow start sharpening up now. After lunch we studied the teaching and testing required for pilots to obtain their Art and First Aid Crests at each standard.

We had a Book Fair on June 4th in support of the "Feed the Minds" campaign and the Pilots wish to express great thanks for the support received in this venture which raised £14.50, and gave us much satisfaction.

The Pilot Population was in danger of being cut when on June 11th we went swimming at Rochdale Baths. Our special thanks go to Mrs. Leach who again volunteered to "sweat it out", not as you might suspect in the Turkish Baths, but in the hot-house atmosphere of the Learner Pool

THE MITES DISCOUNT

There is a story of a little boy who asked his Dad for some collection as he set out for church, and the Father gave him a 2p and a 5p. "Put one in the collection plate and keep the other for yourself", he said.

When the child returned, his Father asked him to give an account of his expenditure.

"At first", said the boy, "I was going to put the 5p in, but just before the plate came round the Minister told us that the Lord loveth a cheerful giver, so I put in 2p and feel much more cheerful".

.....The Editor would like to announce a competition to write an end to this cautionary story. Possibilities include:

"His Father thereupon thrashed him and took the 5p back as it was now only worth 2p anyway."

or

"The Father patted the lad on the head and said 'That's my boy, here is your spending money, and gave him some trading stamps."

ALL IN AID

We have received this statement of the money raised this year for Christian Aid.

Whit Sunday Collection	11.00
Bring and Buy Sale	4.19
Sponsored Walk	40.77
Donations	3.00
Carried forward from last yr.	14.29

...Making a total of £73.25 - Well done!

THE CHURCH IS ALIVE BUT ASLEEP

There is very little news from Littleborough. Anything that happened before the holidays is now history and apart from the Women's Guild and a Coffee Evening and Bring & Buy Sale in aid of the Men's Stall at the Autumn Fair, we have been sleeping in July.

CHURCH DUTIES - LITTLEBOROUGH

OR STEWARDS

Aug. 3rd	Mrs. Crossley	Mr. J. Holt	
10th	Mrs. Stott	Mr. J. Lord	10.30
	Mr. E. Holt		6.00
17th	Mr. J. Hill	Mr. J. Nairn	
24th	Mr. F. Beattie	Mr. H.N. Hill	
31st	Mr. J. Holt	Mrs. Stott	
Sept. 14th	Mr. J. Nairn	Mrs. Crossley	

ELDERS COMMUNION ROTA

Aug. 10th	Mr. J. Lord	Mr. Simpson	6.00
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OFFICE ROTA

Aug. 3rd	J. Hobbs	W. Spinks	
10th	D. Mallinson	J. Mallinson	
17th	L. Kelsall	B. Holt	
24th	L. Butterworth	A. Merrick	
	Y. Kenny		
31st	A. Wall	P. Wall	
Sept. 14th	W. Law	J. Law	

Persons unable to take their appointments as listed are expected to find a suitable substitute.

FAMILY CHURCH READINGS

Aug. 3rd	"Dance for joy"		
	2 Samuel 6: 12 - 22	M.G. Hill	
10th	"Into one family"		
	Ruth 2: 1 - 13	K. Hill	
17th	"Serving each other"		
	Acts 9: 36 - 43	M. Law	
24th	"We have news"		
	Acts 17: 16 - 31	H. Vincent	
31st	"Work for a Living"		
	2 Thessalonians 3: 6- 12	M. Grindrod	
Sept. 14th		P. Lightfoot	

CHURCH DUTIES → MILNROW

FAMILY CHURCH DOOR STEWARDS

Aug. 3rd	Mr. J. Collins	Mrs. A. Collins
10th	Mrs. F. Rae	Mrs. P. Royle
17th	Mr. G. Buckley	Mr. A. Rae
24th	Mr. H. Mellor	Mrs. F. Butterworth
31st	Mr. J. Harrison	Mr. I. Royle
Sept. 7th	Mr. J. Collins	Mrs. A. Collins

ELDERS ROTA

DUTY ELDER

Organist/Pianist
Evening Worship

EVENING DOOR STEWARDS

Aug.

3rd	Mr. B. Clough	Mr. R. Gillon	Mr. D. Logan
10th	Mrs. N. Settle	Mr. J. Emmott	Mrs. E. Starkie
17th	Mrs. E. Gillon	Mr. J. Wild	Mrs. C. Hey
24th	Mrs. M. Howarth	Miss M. Wood	Mrs. C. Bradbury
31st	Mr. K. Hey	Mr. R. Gillon	Mr. J. Emmott

Sept

7th	Mr. B. Clough	Mr. A. Roberts	Mr. D. Logan
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COMMUNION ROTA

Aug. 3rd	Mrs. E. Gillon	Mr. R. Gillon
Sept. 7th	Mr. A. Roberts	Mr. J. Emmott

FAMILY CHURCH COFFEE ROTA

Aug. 3rd	Mrs. E. Busill	Miss I. Tither
10th	Mrs. H. Buckley	Mrs. E. Smith
17th	Mrs. J. Duffy	Mrs. F. Butterworth
24th	Mrs. A. Wood	Mrs. A. Collins
31st	Mrs. H. Whitehead	Mrs. Greenhalgh
Sept. 7th	NO COFFEE BAR	

Persons unable to take their appointments as listed are expected to find a suitable substitute.

8 yds

11 20 yds

8 yds

11 1 yd

